

**ARIZONA GAME AND FISH DEPARTMENT  
HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM  
HABITAT ENHANCEMENT AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL**

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

<b>Project Title:</b> Elk Stewardship Program		<b>Project No.</b> 07-709
<b>Region/GMU:</b> Regions 1 and 6	<b>HPC:</b>	
<b>Project Type:</b> Elk winter forage habitat improve projects		
<b>Project Description:</b> This is an ongoing program within the Landowner Relations Program that provides funding to ranchers that contain a significant amount of winter forage used by elk. This program is designed to alleviate some of the pressure some pastures may receive from wintering herds of elk. The program provides ranchers with either seed or fertilizer to be used in pastures used by elk as winter forage habitat. In return, the rancher agrees to allow elk to use the pastures and the improve elk habitat.		
<b>Wildlife Species to Benefit:</b> Elk		
<b>Possible Funding Partners:</b>		
<b>Implementation Schedule:</b> Annual Program <b>Beginning:</b> July 1st, 2008 <b>Completed:</b> June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2009	<b>NEPA Compliance:</b> Not applicable <b>Completed:</b> Yes ____ No ____ <b>Projected Completion Date:</b>	

**PROJECT FUNDING**

<b>SBG Funds Requested:</b> \$ up to \$50,000
<b>Cost Share Funds:</b> \$ 0
<b>Total Project Costs:</b> \$ up to \$50,000

**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION**

<b>Applicant:</b> Al Eiden (please print) <b>Telephone:</b> 602-789-3624	<b>Address:</b> 2221 W. Greenway Rd Phoenix, AZ 85023
<b>AGFD Contact and Phone No.</b> (If applicant is not AGFD personnel)	
<b>Coordinated with:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
<b>Applicant's signature:</b>	<b>Date:</b>

**SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS TO:**

**Game Branch**  
 2221 W. Greenway Rd.  
 Phoenix, AZ 85023  
 mdisney@azgfd.gov

**WAS PROJECT PRESENTED TO THE LOCAL HPC?**      YES ☒ in previous years \_\_\_\_\_  
NO \_\_\_\_\_

**HAS PROJECT BEEN SUBMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS? IF SO WAS IT FUNDED?**

Yes, this project has been funded for the past 4 years and has enabled the Landowner Relations Program to build good relationship with landowners in Regions 1 and 6. Funding for this program in the past has been about \$50,000 per year.

**NEED STATEMENT/PROBLEM ANALYSIS:**

This project will address the condition of winter forage habitat available to elk in the northeast portion of the state. The winter forage habitat available to elk herds is vital to ensuring elk populations remain healthy and stable. This program addresses this issue by partnering with landowners to improve available winter forage habitat by providing fertilizer and seed to landowners to use to manage pastures to maintain high quality winter forage for elk. Due to increases in the price of fertilizer and seed, the program will not be able to fund all projects proposals received this year. In response to the limited amount of funding, Department staff will rank the applicants and funds will be allocated based on how individual proposals score.

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:**

-To improve quality winter forage for elk in Regions 1 and 6

**PROJECT STRATEGIES:**

- Through a stewardship agreement, partner with landowners containing winter forage habitat to improve this habitat for elk.
- Habitat will be improved using fertilizer to increase production of forage or seed to plant new forage habitat.
- Landowners will plant seed or fertilize pastures used by wintering elk herds, and together this program will provide high quality winter forage habitat for elk.

**PROJECT LOCATION:**

Multiple ranchers located in Regions 1 and 6.

**LAND OWNERSHIP AT PROJECT SITE (Please state specifically if PRIVATE PROPERTY and provide landowner's name):**

Multiple Ranches on Private, and US Forest Service Property

**IF PRIVATE PROPERTY, IS THERE A STEWARDSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LANDOWNER AND THE DEPARTMENT?**

All landowners will be required to sign a stewardship agreement before receiving fertilizer or grass seed.

**HABITAT DESCRIPTION:**

**Elk range throughout Regions 1 and 6.**

**ITEMIZED USE OF FUNDS:**

**\$50,000        purchase and delivery of fertilizer and seed**

**LIST COOPERATORS AND DESCRIBE POTENTIAL PARTICIPATION:**

**Multiple landowners in Regions 1 and 6  
Landowner Relations Program, AZGFD**

**PROJECT MONITORING PLAN:**

**The Wildlife Manager for the Game Management Unit containing each ranch selected for the Elk Stewardship Program will complete monitoring. Monitoring will consist of site visits to ensure the materials provided through this program are used on areas containing winter forage for elk, and that these areas are accessible and available to elk herds throughout the winter.**

**PROJECT MAINTENANCE:**

**The maintenance of all projects will be written into the stewardship agreement as the responsibility of the landowner. To ensure compliance with this requirement, the Wildlife Manager will determine if the project area is maintained to meet the requirement of providing winter forage for elk during the site visits.**

**PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT TO BE FILED BY:**

**Al Eiden, Conservation Stewardship Coordinator, AGFD**

**WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):**

**TREE SHEARING (AGRA-AXE, PUSH) PROJECTS (see attached worksheet):**